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First, that the population of the mountain and Pacific states was negligible at the time of the Civil War, and this involves no great error. Second, that in the southern states no change has occurred in the mean stature of the population between 1861-64 and 1917-18. The latter is, of course, not strictly true. It is true, however, that the change in mean stature of the population of these states has been slight as compared with northern states. A comparison of the statistics of 1917-18 with Coolidge's (1856) army recruiting statistics of 1839-55 suggests an increase in stature for Tennessee, Alabama, North Carolina, and Virginia, and a decrease for Georgia and South Carolina. Little stress should be laid on these differences, however, especially since for some reason in the states where comparisons can be made Coolidge's averages all run lower than those of Civil War recruits taken a few years later. It is probable that the army recruits of 1839-55 were not a fair representation of the male population in respect to stature. Be that as it may, utilizing the assumption just named the value of $\frac{\Sigma[\Delta f]}{F}$ is found to be -0.1799 inches.

The value of "*J*" is found as follows. From Gould's data (1869, p. 105), recruits under 21 years of age were 0.997 inches shorter than recruits 21-30 years, the exclusive ages of recruits of 1917-18. Such men under 21 constituted 31.78 per cent of the total. Hence, they reduced the mean stature of the 1861-64 recruits by 0.997 x .3178, or 0.3168 inches. Adding the two quantities (0.18 and 0.32) for which correction must be made, we gain as the most probable reduction of mean stature of men 21-30 years old in the United States during the past 50 years, half an inch. This is one physical result of the "new immigration."

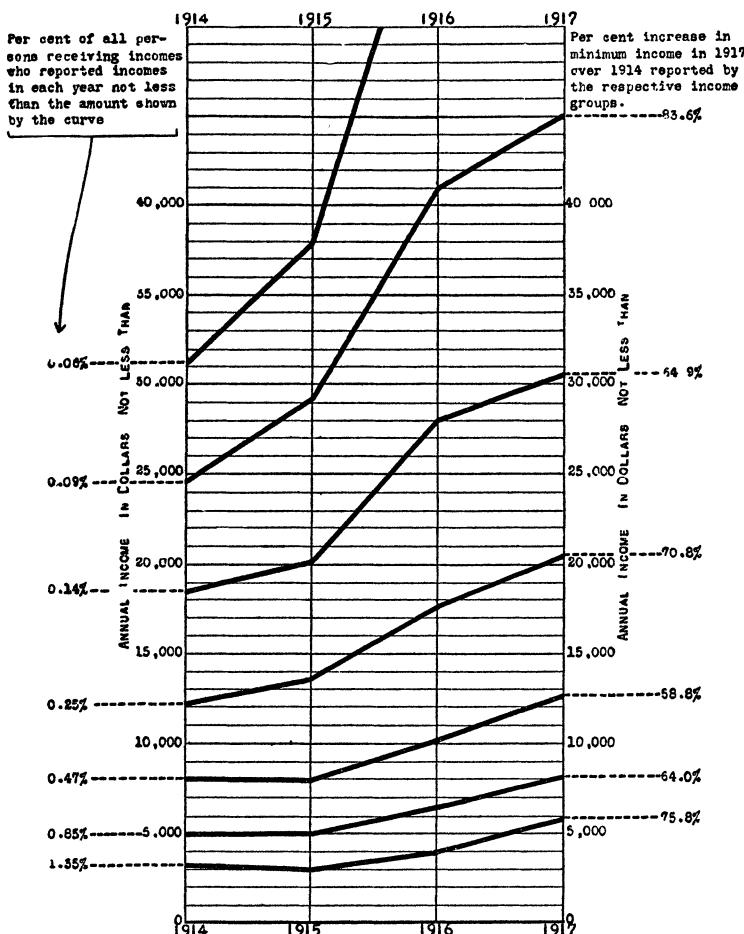
A NEW ANALYSIS OF PERSONAL INCOME TAX RETURNS

By M. C. RORTY

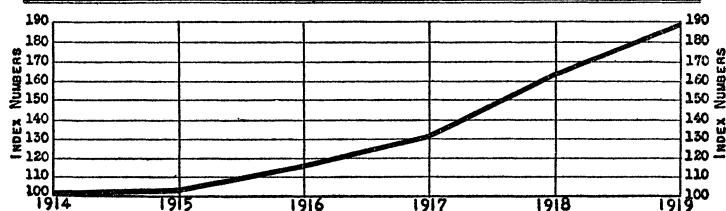
The accompanying chart represents an attempt to analyze personal income tax returns in such manner as to show the percentages of increase in the larger incomes during the war period. For this purpose, use has been made of the shift from year to year in the dividing lines between comparable groups of income tax payers. Referring to the chart, it will be seen, for example, that in 1914, .09 per cent of the actual and potential income tax payers (heads of families, etc.) had incomes of \$24,700 or more. In 1915 the same percentage of all possible income tax payers (allowing for increases in population) had incomes of \$29,200 or more. In 1917 this percentage of income tax payers had incomes of \$45,000 or more. The increase in the base line for the group had, therefore, been 83.6 per cent during the period from 1914 to 1917.

For comparison with the figures as to incomes, there has been plotted at the bottom of the chart an index of wage increases from 1914 to 1919.

TREND OF INCOMES IN UNITED STATES AS REPORTED BY CERTAIN INCOME GROUPS, 1914 - 1917
 BASED ON OFFICIAL INCOME TAX RETURNS



INDEX OF WAGES, BASED ON COMPILATIONS OF NEW YORK STATE INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION



It may be expected that, as such charts are carried forward by the addition of figures for 1918 and 1919 personal incomes, there will be, at least in 1919, a downward trend in the income curves, while the wage index will still be rapidly rising. This follows from the fact that the higher incomes are very largely the product of industrial and commercial profits rather than salaries.

When final data for the war period are at hand, it will be desirable to complete the analysis by deducting income taxes from the gross income figures in order to show the final effect of war conditions on the relative net sums available for personal expenditure by the recipients of large and small incomes.

It should be noted, in conclusion, that total possible income taxpayers were estimated for the purposes of the chart by dividing the total population of the continental United States by four. This is a rough approximation, only, but any error involved does not affect the form of the curves.

PROGRESS OF THE POPULATION CENSUS

In the last issue of the QUARTERLY there was a brief statement regarding the progress of the Fourteenth Census. The subject, it may be assumed, is one of great interest to the members of the American Statistical Association, and in response to the Editor's request the following statement has been prepared covering some of the more important features of the work on the population census.

In the tabulation of the population returns the first important step after the schedules have been received and inspected is the hand-count of names. On the basis of this count the population of each state, county, city, and smaller civil division is ascertained and the results are announced as the work progresses. This task was completed about the first of October and on the seventh of that month the Bureau of the Census announced the total population of the United States, 105,683,108. The figures are subject to revision, but there is not likely to be any material change in the total. Comparison with a population of 91,972,266 in 1910 and of 75,994,575 in 1900 shows an increase of 15,977,691 or 21.0 per cent from 1900 to 1910, as against an increase of 13,710,842 or 14.9 per cent from 1910 to 1920, the falling off in the rate of growth being attributable mainly to the almost complete cessation of immigration during the five years preceding the taking of the census.

Following this population count the cards are punched for the detailed tabulation by sex, color, nativity, illiteracy, school attendance, etc. The card punching, which is the largest single task in the population work next to the field work of enumeration, was begun on March 1 and was practically completed by October 1.

The next important step in the process of tabulation is the machine verification of the punched card known as the "verification run," in which the electrical machines are wired so as to reject automatically any card which lacks the required number of punched holes, also any card which is "off gauge," *i. e.*, not punched with the mechanical exactness required for the tabulating machines, and any card on which the recorded data, as indicated by the punched holes, involve some apparent inconsistency, as when, for instance, a card is punched as "widowed" or as "married" and "under 15 years of age." The cards thus rejected for inconsistencies or improbabilities are compared with the entries on the schedules as filled out by the enumerator and, if error is discovered, are corrected. The verification run was begun on the seventeenth of April and is practically completed.

Although this run is, as just explained, primarily for the purpose of eliminating defective or erroneously punched cards, it yields what might be termed a valuable